

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 1513–1528; 1 private bill, H.R. 1529; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 243–246 were introduced. **Pages H2570–71**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H2571**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1362, to reform acquisition practices of the Federal Government, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–47, Pt. 2) and H. Res. 242, providing for consideration of H.R. 1362, to reform acquisition practices of the Federal Government (H. Rept. 110–49). **Page H2570**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Johann Arnold, Church Communities International, Rifton, New York. **Page H2489**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 265 yeas to 157 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 147. **Page H2515**

House Democracy Assistance Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the House Democracy Assistance Commission: Representative Price (NC), Chairman; Representatives Capps, Holt, Schiff, Schwartz, Payne, Pomeroy, Farr, Salazar, Ellison, and Hirono. **Page H2493**

House Democracy Assistance Commission—Appointment: Read a letter from the Minority Leader wherein he appointed the following Members of the House of Representative to the House Democracy Assistance Commission: Representatives Dreier, Boozman, Fortenberry, Wilson (SC), Biggert, Gilchrest, Weller, Miller (FL), and Shuster. **Page H2493**

United States Capitol Preservation Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission: Representatives Obey and Kaptur. **Page H2493**

United States Capitol Preservation Commission—Appointment: Read a letter from the Minority Leader wherein he appointed Representative Wamp to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission. **Page H2493**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Presidential Library Donation Reform Act of 2007: H.R. 1254, to amend title 44, United States Code, to require information on contributors to Presidential library fundraising organizations, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 390 yeas to 34 nays, Roll No. 142; **Pages H2493–96, H2507–08**

Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007: H.R. 1255, amended, to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 333 yeas to 93 nays, Roll No. 143; and **Pages H2496–H2500, H2508–09**

Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 2007: H.R. 1309, amended, to promote openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 308 yeas to 117 nays, Roll No. 144. **Pages H2500–07, H2509**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Westmoreland motion to adjourn by a recorded vote of 142 ayes to 258 noes, Roll No. 148. **Pages H2516–17**

Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 985, to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify which disclosures of information are protected from prohibited personnel practices; to require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements to the effect that such policies, forms, and agreements are consistent with certain disclosure protections, by a yea-and-nay vote of 331 yeas to 94 nays, Roll No. 153. **Pages H2510–15, H2517–43**

Agreed to the Westmoreland motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a recorded vote of 426 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 152. Subsequently, Representative Braley reported the bill back to the House with amendments and the amendments were agreed to. **Pages H2540–42**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of the bill, modified by the amendments recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill, shall be considered as adopted and shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment. **Page H2510**

Agreed by unanimous consent that the House vacate the ordering of the recorded vote on the Platts

amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–48) and the previous vote by voice on that amendment to the end that the Chair may put the question on adopting the amendment de novo.

On a demand for a separate vote on an amendment agreed to in the Committee of the Whole:

By a yea-and-nay vote of 252 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 151, agreed to the Stupak amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–48) that clarifies that instances of political interference with science are to be considered “abuses of authority” and their disclosure therefore protected (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole by a recorded vote of 250 ayes to 178 noes, Roll No. 149)

Pages H2530–32, H2537–38, H2539–40

Earlier, agreed to amendments in the Committee of the Whole:

Agreed to:

Platts amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–48) that requires that the Merit Systems Protection Board rely on a consistent standard for “clear and convincing evidence” as the burden of proof that must be met to sustain an agency’s affirmative defense (that it would have taken the same personnel action independent of an employee’s protected conduct);

Pages H2532–33

Platts amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110–48) that clarifies that an otherwise-protected disclosure cannot be disqualified because of the forum in which it is communicated; and

Pages H2533–34

Tierney amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 110–48) that changes the section on national security whistleblowers to limit which members of Congress can receive information about especially sensitive subjects.

Pages H2536–37

Rejected:

Sali amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 110–48) that sought to remove the provision that would make influencing federally funded scientific research a prohibited personnel practice (by a recorded vote of 159 ayes to 271 noes, Roll No. 150).

Pages H2534–36, H2538–39

H. Res. 239, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 146, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 145.

Pages H2510–15

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 244, electing the following Members to serve on certain joint committees: Joint Committee on Printing: Representatives Brady (PA), Capuano, Ehlers, and McCarthy (CA), to serve with the Chair of the Committee on House Administration; Joint Committee of Congress on the Library: Representatives Zoe

Lofgren, Ehlers, and Daniel E. Lungren, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration.

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Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appear on page H2489.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eight yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2507–08, H2508–09, H2509, H2513–14, H2514–15, H2515, H2516–17, H2538, H2538–39, H2539–40, H2541, H2542–43. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies continued hearings on NASA. Testimony was heard from Michael D. Griffin, Administrator, NASA.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies held a hearing on Science Research. Testimony was heard from Raymond L. Orbach, Under Secretary, Science, Department of Energy.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on the National Archives and Records Administration. Testimony was heard from Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Gulf Coast Rebuilding. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Donald Powell, Federal Gulf Coast Coordinator; Gil Jamieson, Deputy Director, Gulf Coast Rebuilding; FEMA; and Matt Jadacki, Deputy Inspector General.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Bureau of Land Management. Testimony was heard from James M. Hughes, Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.